CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method for preventing unauthorized recording of media content on a

5 Macintosh operating system comprising:

registering a compliance mechanism on a client system having said Macintosh

operating system operating thereon, said compliance mechanism comprising:

a framework for validating said compliance mechanism on said client

system; and

10 a multimedia component opened by said framework, said multimedia

component for decrypting said media content on said client system; and

preventing decryption of said media content on said client system having said

Macintosh operating system operating thereon if a portion of said compliance

mechanism is invalidated.

15

2. The method as recited in Claim 1 further comprising:

a kernel level extension providing kernel level driver information to said

framework, wherein when an invalid kernel level extension is recognized said

framework directs said kernel level extension to selectively restrict output of said media

20 content.

3. The method as recited in Claim 2 wherein said kernel level extension

matches no physical device on the client system.

4.   The method as recited in Claim 2 wherein said kernel level extension comprises:

recognizing a kernel level recorder capturing an audio stream; and

informing said framework of said kernel level recorder.

5

5.   The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said framework will disable audio playback from the multimedia component until said components of the compliance mechanism are validated.

10   6.   The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said framework accesses a network to ensure that said components of the compliance mechanism are up to date.

7.   The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said framework establishes a monitoring thread which maintains a constant search for output devices.

15

8.   The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said compliance mechanism further comprises a bad boy list.

9.   The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said multimedia component is a

20   media rendering or processing application.

10.   The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said media content is received from a source coupled with said client system, said source is from the group consisting of:

a network, a personal communication device, a satellite radio feed, a cable television radio input, a set-top box, an media device, a media storage device, a media storage device inserted in a media device player, a media player application, and a media recorder application.

5

11.   The method as recited in Claim 1 further comprising altering said compliance mechanism in response to a change in a usage restriction, said usage restriction comprising a copyright restriction or licensing agreement applicable to said media content.

10

12.   A computer readable medium for storing computer implementable instructions, said instructions for causing a client system to perform a method for preventing unauthorized recording of media content on a Macintosh operating system comprising:

15   registering a compliance mechanism on a client system having said Macintosh operating system operating thereon, said compliance mechanism comprising:

a framework for validating components of said compliance mechanism on said client system;

a multimedia component opened by said framework, said multimedia

20   component for preventing decryption of media content on said client system if said framework detects an invalid environment; and

a kernel level extension providing kernel level driver information to said framework;

disabling output of said media content on said client system having said Macintosh operating system operating thereon if a portion of said compliance mechanism is invalidated.

5   13.   The computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said instructions cause said client system to perform said method further comprising:

authorizing said client system to receive said media content.

14.   The computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said kernel level

10   extension matches no physical device.

15.   The computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said kernel level extension comprises:

recognizing a kernel level recorder capturing an audio stream; and

15   informing said framework of said kernel level recorder.

16.   The computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said framework will disable audio playback from the multimedia component until said components of the compliance mechanism are validated.

20

17.   The computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said framework accesses a network to ensure that said components of the compliance mechanism are up to date.

18.   The computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said framework establishes a monitoring thread which maintains a constant search for output devices.

19.   The computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said multimedia
5   component is a media rendering or processing application.

20.   The computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said client system performs said method further comprising:

accessing an indicator corresponding to said media content for indicating to said
10   compliance mechanism a usage restriction applicable to said media content.

21.   The computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said client system performs said method further comprising:

altering said compliance mechanism is response to changes in said usage
15   restriction, said usage restriction a copyright restriction or licensing agreement applicable to said media content.

22. The computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said media content is from a source coupled with said client system, wherein said source is from the group
20   consisting of:

a network, a personal communication device, a satellite radio feed, a cable television radio input, a set-top box, an media device, a media storage device, a media storage device inserted in a media device player, a media player application, and a media recorder application.

25

23.   A system for preventing unauthorized recording of media content on a

Macintosh operating system comprising:

means for registering a compliance mechanism on a client system having said

Macintosh operating system operating thereon, said compliance mechanism

5   comprising:

means for validating components of said compliance mechanism on said

client system;

means for preventing decryption of media content on said client system if

said framework detects an invalid environment; and

10   means for providing kernel level extension information to said

framework; and

means for disabling output of said media content on said client system having

said Macintosh operating system operating thereon if a portion of said compliance

mechanism is invalidated.

15

24.   The system as recited in Claim 23 further comprising:

means for authorizing said client system to receive said media content.

25.   The system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said kernel level extension

20   comprises:

means for recognizing a kernel level recorder capturing an audio stream; and

means for informing said framework of said kernel level recorder.

26.   The system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said framework further

25   comprises:

means for disabling audio playback from the multimedia component until said components of the compliance mechanism are validated.

27.   The system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said framework further comprises:

means for accessing a network to ensure that said components of the compliance mechanism are up to date.

28.   The system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said framework further comprises:

means for maintaining a constant search for output devices.

29.   The system as recited in Claim 23 further comprising:

means for accessing an indicator for indicating to said compliance mechanism said usage restriction applicable to said media content, said indicator attached to said media content.

30.   The system as recited in Claim 23 further comprising:

means for altering said compliance mechanism in response to changes in said usage restriction, said usage restriction a copyright restriction or licensing agreement applicable to said media content.

31. The system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said media content is from a source coupled with said client system, wherein said source is from the group consisting of:

a network, a personal communication device, a satellite radio feed, a cable
television radio input, a set-top box, an media device, a media storage device, a media
storage device inserted in a media device player, a media player application, and a
media recorder application.

5